



AGENDA

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

10 AUGUST 2023

MEMBERSHIP: Councillors J Black, L Burns, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, V Etheridge, J Gough, R Ivey, D Mahon, P Wells and M Wright.

The meeting is scheduled to commence at 5.30pm.

Page

CSC23/44	LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID23/1244)	
CSC23/45	CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID23/1232) In accordance with their Oath/Affirmation under the Act, and Council's Code of Conduct, Councillors must disclose the nature of any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest which may arise during the meeting, and manage such interests accordingly.	
CSC23/46	INVESTMENT UNDER SECTION 625 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT - JULY 2023 (ID23/1892) The Committee had before it the report dated 1 August 2023 from the Graduate Accountant regarding Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act - July 2023.	2
CSC23/47	AUSTRALIA DAY - SURVEY RESULTS FOR 2023 CEREMONIES AND PLANNING FOR 2024 CEREMONIES (ID23/1899) The Committee had before it the report dated 31 July 2023 from the Manager Corporate Governance regarding Australia Day - Survey results for 2023 ceremonies and planning for 2024 ceremonies.	10



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

REPORT: Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act - July 2023

DIVISION: Organisational Performance
REPORT DATE: 1 August 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/1892

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide review or update• Fulfil legislative requirement/compliance	
Issue	Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021• Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993• Council's Investment Policy and Strategy	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Organisational Performance
	Funding Source	Interest Earned on Investment
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Investment Policy 2023
	Impact on Policy	There are no policy implications arising from this report

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 4 Leadership

CSP Objective: 4.2 The resources of Council are sustainably managed

Delivery Program Strategy: 4.2.1 The system of raising revenue is equitable and revenue from grants and other income sources is maximised

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained within the Investment under Section 625 of the Local Government Act Report, dated 1 August 2023, be noted.

Jane Bassingthwaight
Director Organisational Performance

KC
Graduate Accountant

BACKGROUND

As required by Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, set out below, are the details of all monies that Council has invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act as at 31 July 2023.

In accordance with the Investment Ministerial Order dated 12 January 2011, Dubbo Regional Council may only invest money (on the basis that all investments must be denominated in Australian Dollars) in the following forms of investment:

- a. any public funds or securities issued by or guaranteed by the Commonwealth, any State of the Commonwealth or a Territory;
- b. any debentures or securities issued by a council (within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW));
- c. interest bearing deposits with, or any debentures or bonds issued by, an authorised deposit taking institution (as defined in the Banking Act 1959 (Cwth)), but excluding subordinated debt obligations;
- d. any bill of exchange which has a maturity date of not more the 200 days; and if purchased for value confers on the holder in due course a right of recourse against a bank which has been designated as an authorised deposit-taking institution by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority;
- e. A deposit with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation on investment in an Hour-Glass investment facility of the New South Wales Treasury Corporation.

Investments, when placed, have been done so in accordance with the Local Government Act, Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Council's Investment Policy and Strategy. Interest on investments for the month of July 2023 has been accounted for on an accrual basis. This report details investments and annualised returns for the month of July 2023.

REPORT

Portfolio Overview

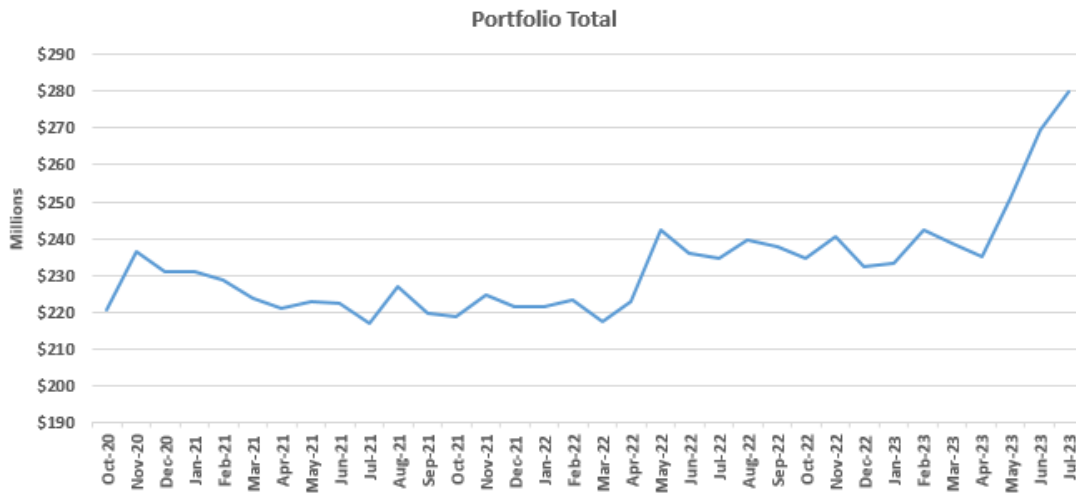
The below table details Council's current investment portfolio:

Issuer	Market Value	% Total Value
AMP Bank Ltd	10,256,572.57	3.63%
Australian Unity Bank	4,079,638.36	1.45%
Auswide Bank Limited	13,634,860.00	4.83%
Bank of China (Australia) Limited	4,547,880.00	1.61%
Bank of China Limited, Sydney Branch	2,991,000.00	1.06%
Bank of Queensland Ltd	49,703,453.86	17.61%
Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	34,598,429.62	12.26%
Heritage and People's Choice Limited t/as People's Choice Credit Union	10,028,356.15	3.55%
Judo Bank	16,227,643.27	5.75%
Macquarie Bank	7,657,760.00	2.71%
Macquarie Credit Union Limited	2,043,764.38	0.72%
ME Bank - a division of Bank of Queensland Ltd	10,446,054.80	3.70%
MyState Bank Ltd	21,090,942.45	7.47%
National Australia Bank Ltd	64,618,858.98	22.90%
Northern Territory Treasury Corporation	13,014,330.00	4.61%
Rabobank Nederland Australia Branch	4,930,600.00	1.75%
Suncorp-Metway Ltd	4,826,700.00	1.71%
UBS Australia Ltd	4,468,770.00	1.58%
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	3,031,206.57	1.07%
Portfolio Total	282,196,821.01	100.00%

[^]Portfolio overview represents total market value. Investment face value is \$279,779,985.03

[^] NAB is inclusive of Councils cash account.

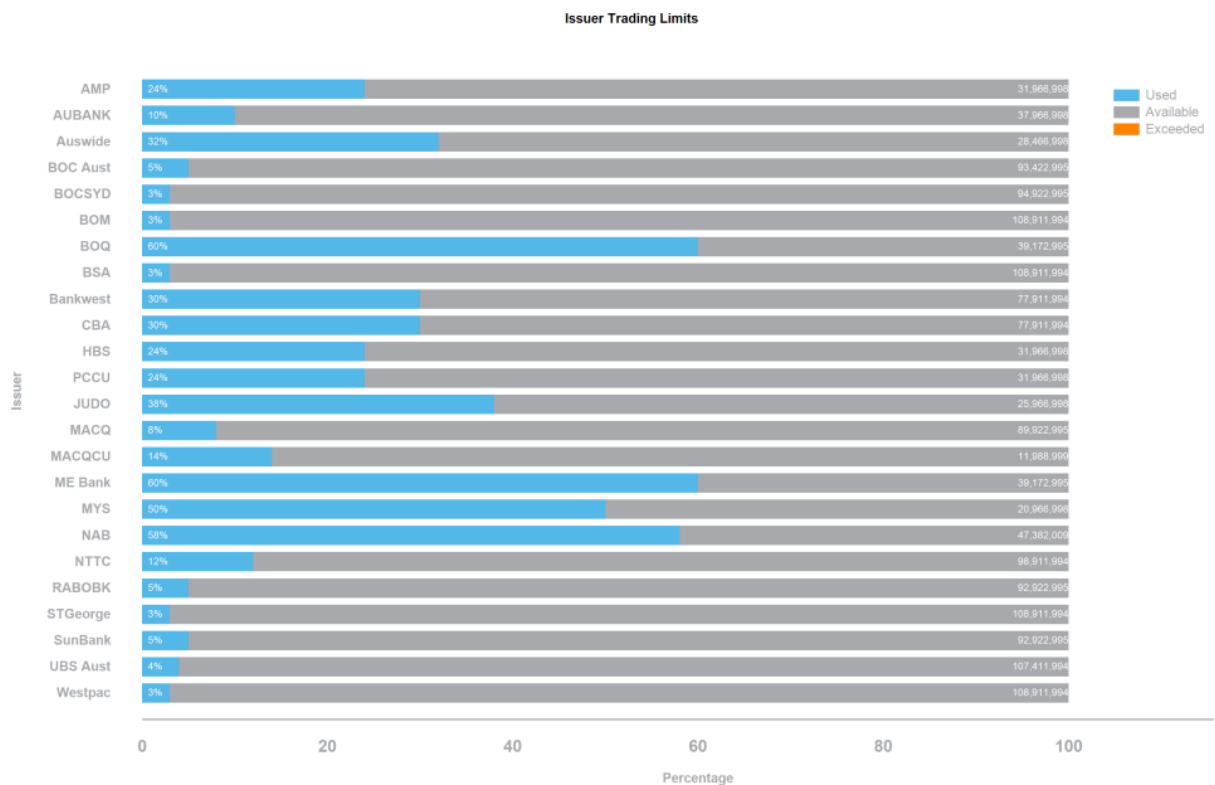
It was determined in June 2023 that interest rates being offered by Term Deposits were outperforming the AMP 31 day notice saver account which was returning an interest rate of 4.55%. Council made the decision to provide 31 days notice to close the AMP notice saver account and have funds totaling \$10,585,330.97 returned in July 2023. Council acquired \$17,000,000.00 in new term deposits during July 2023 and received interest rates ranging between 5.70% and 5.80%.



Investment Compliance

The following table shows that Councils investments are compliant with the revised Investment Policy that was adopted at the Ordinary Council meeting held 23 March 2023.

Issuer limits as at Monday, 31 July 2023



Interest Income

The below table details payments of interest paid to Council between 1 July 2023 to 30 July 2023.

Security ISIN	Security	Issuer	Income Expense Code	Settlement Date	Face Value (Basis of Interest Calculation)	Consideration Notional
	CBA 4.6 05 Feb 2024 367DAY TD	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	IEI307700	1 Jul 2023	1,500,000.00	27,978.08
	CBA 4.6 05 Feb 2024 367DAY TD	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	IEI307701	1 Jul 2023	1,500,000.00	27,978.08
	CBA 4.6 05 Feb 2024 367DAY TD	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	IEI307702	1 Jul 2023	5,000,000.00	93,260.27
	CBA 4.78 20 Dec 2024 731DAY TD	Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	IEI307704	1 Jul 2023	5,000,000.00	118,517.81
AU3FN0072369	MYS 1.3 13 Oct 2025 FRN	MyState Bank Ltd	IEI304450	13 Jul 2023	8,000,000.00	98,625.05
	AMP 31 Day Ntc	AMP Bank Ltd	IEI307699	24 Jul 2023		30,262.68
	Westpac 4.05 25 Jul 2023 365DAY TD	Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	IEI307205	25 Jul 2023	5,000,000.00	49,931.51
AU3FN0059895	BOCSYD 0.57 28 Apr 2024 FRN	Bank of China Limited, Sydney Branch	IEI307637	28 Jul 2023	3,000,000.00	31,773.00
	NAB At Call In	National Australia Bank Ltd	IEI307847	31 Jul 2023		183,325.21
						661,651.69

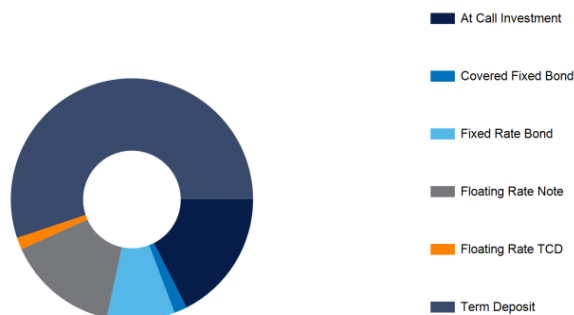
^ Interest received consists of payments made to Council's allocated bank account and are exclusive of accruing interest.

Investment by Asset Class

The following table details Councils investment holdings by investment type:

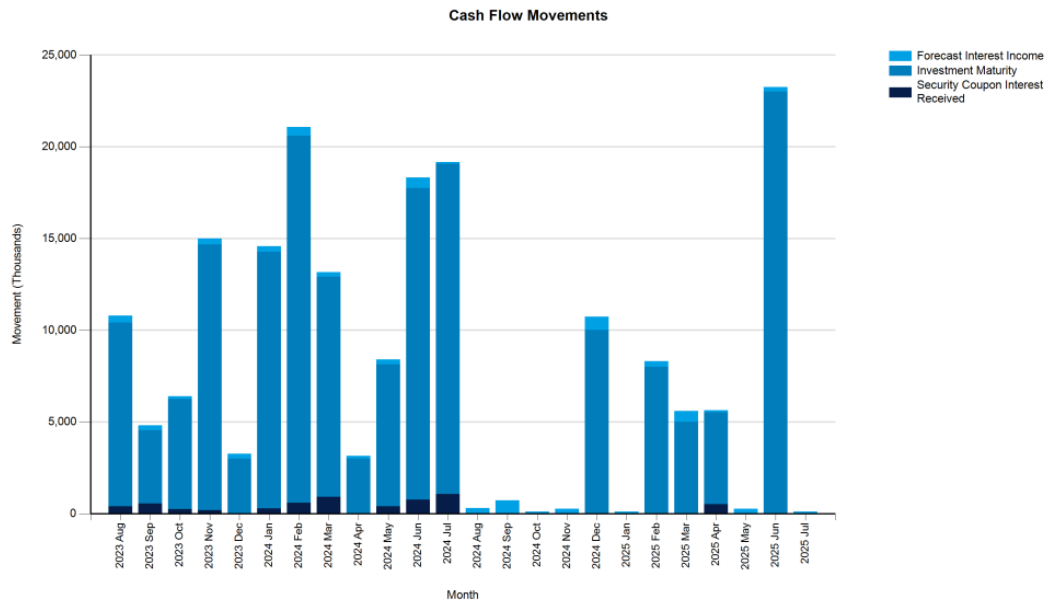
Security Type	Market Value	% Total Value
At Call Investment	49,529,985.03	17.55%
Covered Fixed Bond	4,826,700.00	1.71%
Fixed Rate Bond	25,602,690.00	9.07%
Floating Rate Note	42,116,480.00	14.92%
Floating Rate TCD	4,547,880.00	1.61%
Term Deposit	155,573,085.98	55.13%
Portfolio Total	282,196,821.01	100.00%

Market Value by Security Type

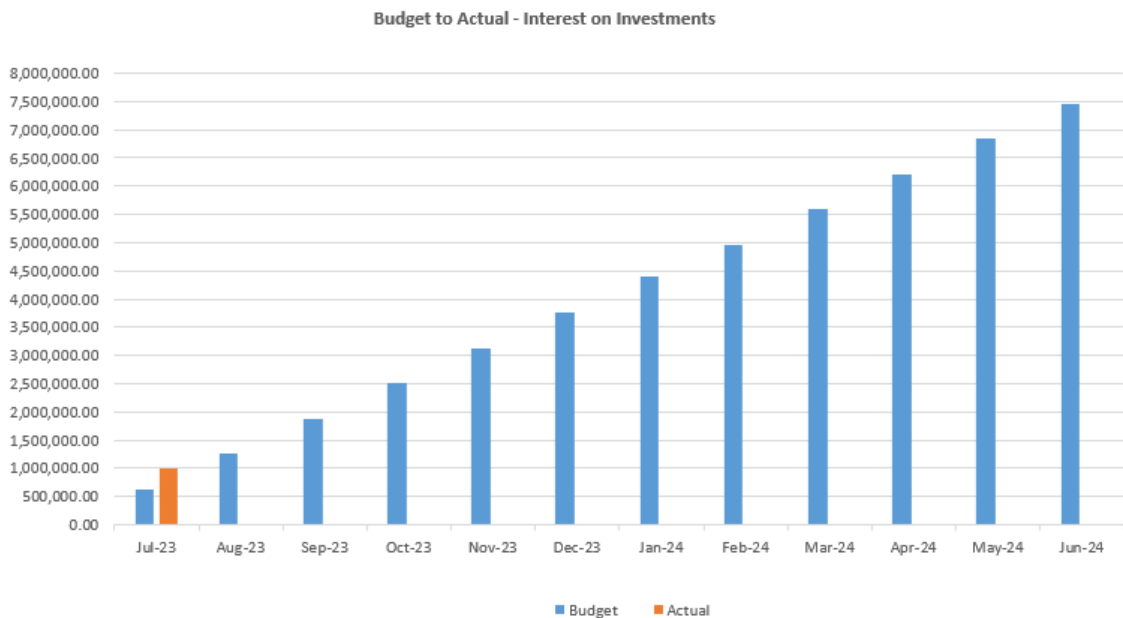


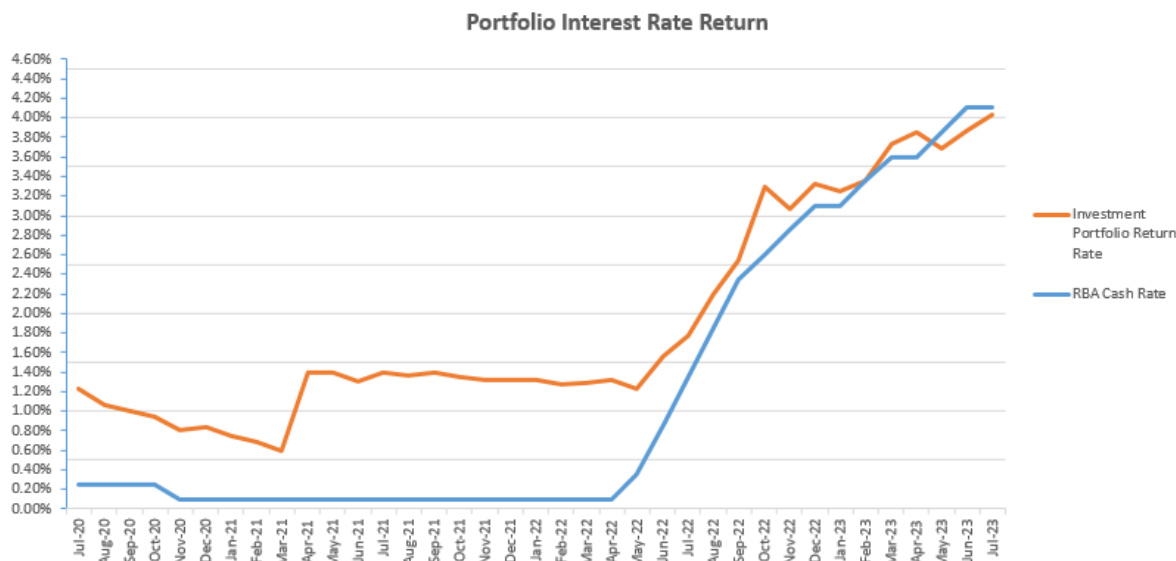
Future Maturity Cash flow

The below table details the expected cash flow of future investment maturity:



Budget to Actual – Total Accumulated Interest on Investments – Year to Date





The investment limit parameters prior to March 2021 were aligned to Tcorp’s investment guidelines, which are very restrictive and therefore reduced the opportunity to maximise investment returns for Council.

As at 30 July 2023 Council has investments totalling \$47,000,000 Face Value which were invested with fixed interest rates below the current Official Cash Rate of 4.10%. Of these investments \$21,000,000 will mature in the financial year ending 30 June 2024. These investments have interest rates ranging from 0.75% to 3.87%. Longer term investments beyond 30 June 2024 totalling \$26,000,000 were invested with interest rates ranging between 0.90% to 3.25%. These investments were placed with competitive interest rates at the time the investments were made. The improved Official Cash Rate has impacted on the comparison of Councils portfolio interest rate return verse the current Official Cash Rate.

Summary

Cash Account

Council outperformed the 11.00am Official Cash Rate market benchmark for one month return of 4.10%, achieving a return of 4.50% for its At Call investments for the month of June 2023.

Investment Portfolio

Council outperformed the one month Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index of 0.37%, with an average return of 4.03% for its overall portfolio return.

Consultation

- Laminar Capital Pty Ltd provides advisory services to Council on any investment related decision.

Resourcing Implications

- The management of Council's investment portfolio is a primary activity of a staff member within Council's Financial Operations branch.



REPORT: Australia Day - Survey results for 2023 ceremonies and planning for 2024 ceremonies

DIVISION: Organisational Performance
REPORT DATE: 31 July 2023
TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/1899

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing Council resolution Seek direction or decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide review or update
Issue	Delivering Australia Day events in our LGA that are inclusive and in line with community expectations.	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council is committed to delivering events and celebrations that reflect the community and are culturally diverse and inclusive. A community survey was undertaken seeking feedback on the 2023 Australia Day events in Dubbo and Wellington. The survey also sought community input regarding the Australia Day civic ceremonies for 2024. Council must now determine the Australia Day ceremonies for 2024, with 26 January 2024 falling on a Friday. 	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Corporate Governance
	Funding Source	Australia Day
	Proposed Cost	\$35,190 (already allocated)
	Ongoing Costs	Nil
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Not Applicable
Consultation	DRC Your Say	Community Survey

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 4 Leadership

CSP Objective: 4.1 Council provides transparent, fair and accountable leadership and governance

Delivery Program Strategy: 4.1.1 Council encourages and facilitates two-way communication with and between stakeholders and the community

Theme:	5 Liveability
CSP Objective:	5.2 Our First Nations communities and cultures are celebrated and enhanced
Delivery Program Strategy:	5.2.2 The culture of our First Nations communities is recognised and celebrated

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That the report of the Manager Corporate Governance be noted.**
2. **That the Australia Day Ceremonies date and time be determined for Wellington and Dubbo for 2024.**
3. **That an Expression of Interest process be undertaken to form Australia Day Committees for Dubbo and Wellington.**
4. **That additional activities post the ceremonies for 2024 be determined for:**
 - a. **Suite of Australia Day Awards**
 - b. **Venues**
 - c. **Cultural performances or entertainment**
 - d. **Free BBQ.**

Jane Bassingthwaight
Director Organisational Performance

AR
Manager Corporate
Governance

BACKGROUND

Council has been holding Australia Day events since the early 1980's. These events are predominantly to host the Civic component of the day, which presents Australia Day awards that recognise volunteers and talented members of the community. The civic event also welcomes and formally confers Australian Citizenship to members of the community who have qualified for such. An Australia Day Ambassador is allocated to each local government area by the Australia Day Council, this person is part of the official party and delivers an address at the civic ceremony.

Since the council merger in 2016, Dubbo Regional Council have been organising and conducting two Australia Day events each year, one held in Dubbo and another held in Wellington.

Council focused on delivering more collaborative and inclusive events in January 2023, with the aim to provide something that recognises our Indigenous community and is more reflective of our multicultural audience. Following discussions with Councillors, the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group in Dubbo, and discussions with the Wellington Aboriginal Working Party and the Wellington Australia Day committee, council trialled new formats at the 2023 Australia Day events with the Wellington ceremony held on the evening of 25 January 2023, and the Dubbo ceremony (including citizenship ceremony) held on the morning of 26 January 2023, with market stalls.

Previous Resolutions of Council

8 December 2022 CCL22/326	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. That the proposed trial events be implemented for community celebrations to mark Australia Day 2023 in Dubbo and Wellington.</i><i>2. That council undertake community consultation following Australia Day events to gauge community feedback and expectations.</i><i>3. That a comprehensive plan following community consultation be developed and presented to council at a future meeting of Council.</i>
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Wellington 2023:

- The official civic event for Wellington was held at 5:30pm on the evening of Wednesday 25 January 2023 (finished approx. 7pm), in Cameron Park with a number of award presentations.
- Wellington Town Band played music prior to and during the ceremony.
- The Wellington Rotary Club ran the twilight markets from 4:30pm and as part of the market set up, the Wellington Rotary Club provided its regular market BBQ (requiring customers to pay).

- The official ceremony consisted of:
 - Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by Billy Stanley
 - Anthem and Flag Raising ceremony
 - Address and Welcome by the Mayor
 - Address by the Australia Day Ambassador
 - Address by an Indigenous Elder, Uncle Joe
 - Presentation of Community awards
 - Presentation of the Australia Day awards
 - Cutting of the cake and photos
 - End of ceremony

Dubbo 2023:

- The official civic event for Dubbo was held at 8:30am on Thursday 26 January 2023 (finished approx. 9:20am), in Victoria Park with a number of award presentations and local market stalls.
- Dubbo District Concert Band played music prior to and during the ceremony.
- There was a free breakfast BBQ provided which cooked by Dubbo Macquarie Rotary Club (with Council supplied sausages, bacon, eggs, bread rolls).
- The official ceremony consisted of:
 - Welcome to Country
 - Anthem and Flag Raising ceremony
 - Address and Welcome by the Mayor
 - Address by the Australia Day Ambassador
 - Address by an Indigenous Elder, Councillor Lewis Burns
 - Presentation of the Australia Day awards
 - Citizenship Ceremony
 - Cutting of the cake and photos
 - End of ceremony

Under statutory provisions in place prior to the 2023 Australia Day, the Dubbo ceremony, specifically the citizenship component, was mandated to be held on 26 January 2023. Those statutory provisions have since been expanded to allow for such ceremonies to be held 3 days either side of 26 January.

REPORT

As resolved earlier this year, a survey was undertaken regarding Council's Australia Day events. Set questions referred separately to the 2023 events held in Wellington and Dubbo, sought feedback on the recent ceremonies, as well as preference for the ceremonies going forward.

The survey was published by Council's Engagement team and the Community Engagement Snapshot provides a summary of results of the survey, this is attached as **Appendix 1**. The Snapshot has been emailed to all survey participants and is publicly available on the Your Say project as part of Councils closing the loop approach to consultation.

Consultation

- The Community Survey data can be found in **Appendix 1**:
 - The survey was open from 19 June to 7 July 2023 (19 days or 3 full working weeks).
 - The survey was published and promoted via social media, the Your Say platform, in both Wellington and Dubbo Council Customer Services foyers, the Daily Liberal Council Column x two, newspaper advertisements, the Wellington and Dubbo Libraries, direct Eblast emails to DRC subscribers;
 - 109 people completed the survey.
- Councillors who attended each/either ceremony likely had discussions with attendees and may have received additional feedback at that time, or since the events.
- Feedback from community to staff on the day of the events were:
 - People raised the heat and length of ceremony in Wellington and could be improved with later timing and shorter formalities.
 - Positive comments on Aboriginal community participation in awards at Wellington.
 - Lack of market patrons gave a lack of atmosphere at Dubbo.
 - Citizenship and awards were a good balance of sharp timing and formality at Dubbo.

Resourcing Implications

- Significant staff time is required in the months leading up to the events to plan and promote the Australia Day awards, facilitate and liaise with award committee members to consider nominees/determine winners, book suppliers, and complete work programs with multiple Council teams to ensure the safety and presentation of the parks/venues for each event.
- With the 2023 events being held on separate days, all Councillors and Executive staff had the opportunity to attend both the Wellington and Dubbo events; if the events are held at the same day/time this will not be possible and may be a consideration.
- Historically, the Australia Day events have included, or been followed by, “free” entry to the Wellington and Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centres. This will need be discussed with the new Aquatic Management providers and may incur costs to the Australia Day budget, whilst remaining “free” to the community.
- Each year a budget allocation is made for the Australia Day events:

Total Financial Implications	2023 events (\$)	Current year 2024 events (\$)	Current year + 1 (\$)	Current year + 2 (\$)	Current year + 3 (\$)	Ongoing (\$)
a. Operating revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0
b. Operating expenses	35,000	35,190	35,894	36,612	37,344	38,091
c. Operating budget impact (a – b)	35,000	35,190	35,894	36,612	37,344	38,091
d. Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0
e. Total net impact (c – d)	-35,000	-35,190	-35,894	-36,612	-37,344	-38,091
Does the proposal require ongoing funding?	No					
What is the source of this funding?	Australia Day Budget					

Table 1. Ongoing Financial Implications

Options Considered

The Community Survey asked participants who attended the 2023 events to rate their satisfaction of the location, day and time, speakers and officials, award presentation, duration of ceremony, accessibility, and markets. Key results from the survey included:

Wellington

- 63.3% of survey participants prefer the Australia Day events on 26 January;
 - 33.3% of survey participants prefer the Australia Day events on 25 January.
- 60.0% of survey participants prefer a morning event.
- The highest satisfaction survey results were for the 2023 event were for the “location”. and “speakers and officials” and “accessibility”.
- The lowest satisfaction survey results were for the 2023 event were for the markets.

Dubbo

- 86.67% of survey participants prefer the Australia Day events on 26 January.
- 82.22% of survey participants prefer a morning event.
- The highest satisfaction survey results were for the 2023 event were for the “day and time” and “location”.
- The lowest satisfaction survey results were for the 2023 event were for the markets.

Option 1 - Continue the 2023 format:

- Wellington ceremony to be held the evening before, being 25 January 2024, commencing at 5:30pm.
- Dubbo ceremony to be held the morning of Australia Day, being 26 January 2024, commencing at 8:30am.
- *Consideration - the Wellington ceremony could be moved to 6:30pm commencement to allow persons working in Dubbo to travel to Wellington and commence at a slightly cooler time of day.*

Option 2_– Both ceremonies to be held on 26 January 2024 at the same time

- Both Wellington and Dubbo ceremonies to be held 8:30am on Friday 26 January.
- *Consideration - available Councillors, Executive and staff be divided to facilitate and attending one ceremony each.*

Option 3 – Both ceremonies to be held on 26 January 2024 with staggered start times

- The Dubbo ceremony could be held at 8am (with free breakfast BBQ from 7:30am), and the Wellington ceremony be held at 10:30am (with free breakfast from BBQ 9am).
- *This has happened in former years.*

Option 4 – Alternating Wellington and Dubbo ceremonies between 25 and 26 January

- Hold the Dubbo ceremony on Thursday 25 January 2024 in the evening.
- Hold the Wellington ceremony on Friday 26 January 2024 in the morning.

Option 5 – Ceremonies to be held within 3 days before or after 26 January

- One or both ceremonies can be held 3 days before, or 3 days after 26 January at any times i.e. morning, lunch, evening.

Preferred Option

- The current venues in Wellington and Dubbo work well and both are centrally located and provide large shaded areas that can accommodate the crowd and seating requirements.
- The local Band performances are well received and assist the running of formalities.
- At the 2023 events the free BBQ in Dubbo was well received compared to the paid BBQ at the Wellington event; Council may consider this in its resolution.
- The market stalls were not satisfactory according to the survey results, however children's activities and performances have been popular in previous years.
- The same suite of Australia Day Awards be set for both Wellington and Dubbo, being
 - Citizen of the Year
 - Senior Citizen of the Year
 - Young Citizen of the Year
 - Sports Person of the Year
 - Young Sports Person of the Year
 - Cultural Award
 - Community Event of the Year

Planned Communications

- Once a determination is made for the 2024 ceremonies, staff will begin the planning process for these events.
- Programs for promotion will be developed with the Communications and Engagement teams.
- An Expression of Interest process will occur to form separate Australia Day Committees for Dubbo and Wellington to assist with the planning and delivery of the events.

Next Steps

- Following a resolution of Council, Staff will commence planning for the 2024 ceremonies.

APPENDICES:

- 1 [↓](#) Australia Day Events - Public - Engagement Snapshot



SURVEY | 2023 Australia Day Events

July 2023

Community Engagement Summary

Council motioned to undergo a community engagement survey to gain feedback on the delivery of 2023 Australia Day Events. The intent of this survey was to help shape the delivery of events in the future across Wellington and Dubbo.

Engagement activities were largely centred on the Your Say platform and a targeted Communications Plan encouraging participation across a variety of channels and reaching diverse audiences within our community.

The survey tool was utilised within the Your Say project page to give community an opportunity to express their experience, opinion and suggestion of Australia Day Events.

A summary of engagement activities and resulting community participation is highlighted below.

How we reached you



19 days of engagement
 • 19 June - 7 July 2023



Survey Locations

- Your Say Online Survey
- Customer Experience Centres
 - Wellington and Dubbo
- Macquarie Regional Library
 - Wellington and Dubbo



Advertisements in circulation

- 2 council column in Daily Liberal
- 4280 newspaper advertisements (Readership)



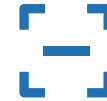
349 visits to Your Say page

- 109 Survey contributions (online)
- 540 views to Your Say page



Digital engagement

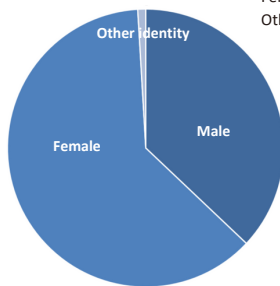
- 9676 social media impressions (the number of times a post appears)
- 409 social media engagements (the number of times a post was interacted with - which can be likes, shares, comments etc)
- Featured in Events Eblast to over 3,900 subscribers



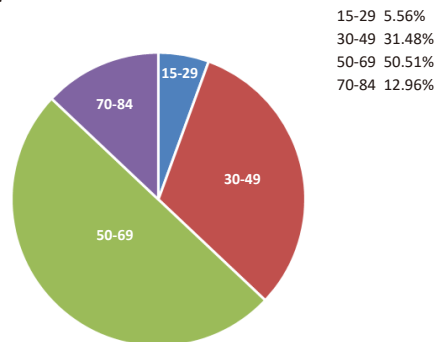
• 4 QR scans to survey

Who we reached

Gender

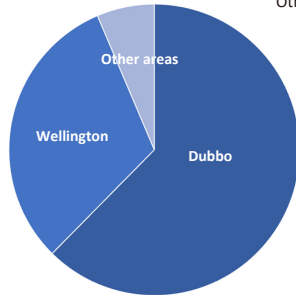


Age



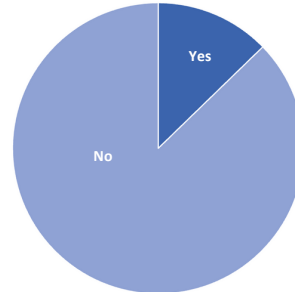


Location



Dubbo 62.4%
Wellington 31.2%
Other areas 6.4%

Aboriginal &/or Torres Strait Islander



12.73% of surveyed participants identify as Aboriginal &/or Torres Strait Islander

What we heard

A collective voice from all participants across the region.



- 62.4% of participants live within Dubbo Area
- 31.2% of participants live within Wellington Area
- 6.4% of participants live within other areas nearby, include Mumbil, Geurie, Spicers Creek, Wongarbon



- 86.2% of participants have previously attended an Australia Day Event
- 49.5% of participants have previously attended an Australia Day Event in Dubbo
- 24.8% of participants have previously attended an Australia Day Event in Wellington



- 69.7% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on 26th January
- 12.8% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on 25th January
- 4.59% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on nearest Saturday to the 26th January



- 67.0% of participants indicated their preference for an Australia Day event in the **morning**
- 12.8% of participants indicated their preference for an Australia Day event in the **evening**

We asked the community who attended an event to rate their satisfaction of the location, day and time, speakers & officials, award presentation, duration of ceremony, accessibility, and markets.



- Highest satisfaction falls in '**location**'
- 89.9% of participants selected satisfactory to exceptional



- Lowest satisfaction falls in '**markets**'
- 35.5% of participants selected needs improvement

Dubbo Australia Day | What we heard

Out of 109 participants, we have 45 attended the 2023 Australia Day event in Dubbo.



- 86.67% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on 26th January
- 6.67% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on 25th January
- 4.44% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on nearest Saturday to the 26th January



- 82.22% of participants indicated their preference for an Australia Day event in the **morning**
- 6.67% of participants indicated their preference for an Australia Day event in the **evening**

We asked the community who attended an event to rate their satisfaction of the location, day and time, speakers & officials, award presentation, duration of ceremony, accessibility, and markets.



- Highest satisfaction falls in '**day and time**' and '**location**'
- 100% of participants selected satisfactory to exceptional



- Lowest satisfaction falls in '**markets**'
- 22.22% of participants selected needs improvement

Wellington Australia Day | What we heard

Out of 109 participants, we have 30 attended the 2023 Australia Day event in Wellington.



- 63.3% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on 26th January
- 33.3% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on 25th January
- 3.3% of participants prefer Australia Day Events on nearest Saturday to the 26th January



- 60.0% of participants indicated their preference for an Australia Day event in the **morning**
- 33.3% of participants indicated their preference for an Australia Day event in the **evening**

We asked the community who attended an event to rate their satisfaction of the location, day and time, speakers & officials, award presentation, duration of ceremony, accessibility, and markets.



- Highest satisfaction falls in '**location**', '**speakers & officials**' and '**accessibility**'
- 90% of participants selected satisfactory to exceptional



- Lowest satisfaction falls in '**markets**'
- 53.3% of participants selected needs improvement

What we heard from Our Community



Recognising special people that do great work in our community and welcoming and celebrating new citizens is very important. However having this event held on January 26th is insensitive to our First Nations brothers and sisters and does not promote inclusion or celebration for our whole community. I have not and will not attend local Australia Day events due to the day it is held on.

Should be held on 26 Jan public holiday to allow everyone to attend. Work commitments prevented people from attending the early evening ceremony on a non public holiday.

The time/date was not suitable for people that work especially Wellington residents who work in Dubbo and don't finish work in Dubbo until 5:30pm; If an evening event must be held then have it on the evening of Australia Day on the Public holiday.

Both events in 2023 were good. Like the idea of a free bbq dinner / brekky for the community, perhaps local businesses can sponsor/donate.

Generally good, but the grassed area where speakers were, was difficult to see the speakers. The grassed area needs to be built up higher, if you are going to use the grassed area next year.

Outcomes and next steps

A report will be presented to Council at a date to be confirmed. This report will outline the survey responses for Council to consider and inform the development of events in 2024.

All community engagement participants will be provided an update.